



County Administrative Office
Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

March 6, 2017

The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas
Chair, Assembly Committee on Revenue and Taxation
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: **AB 292** (Steinorth) – As Introduced on February 2, 2017 - **SUPPORT**

Dear Chairman Ridley-Thomas:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 292, which aims to increase the rate of adoption at local animal shelters by allowing a \$100 tax deduction for adopting any shelter animals over four years of age.

Animal shelters actively seek opportunities to save the lives of rescued pets and possess limited resources to increase pet adoptions. Although offering adoptions at a discounted cost is a proven method of increasing the number of pet adoptions, there is little financial or emotional incentive for individuals to adopt older shelter pets.

Annually an estimated quarter of a billion dollars is spent by local governments and non-profit shelters to support animal shelter services. This includes \$120 million being contributed annually by California taxpayers to fund basic services. By encouraging pet adoption through a financial incentive of a \$100 tax deduction, shelters will see less pressure to spread local resources thin.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 292. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Lovingood".

Robert Lovingood
First District Supervisor
Chairman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

c: San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation

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